

BOBBY BENSON'S

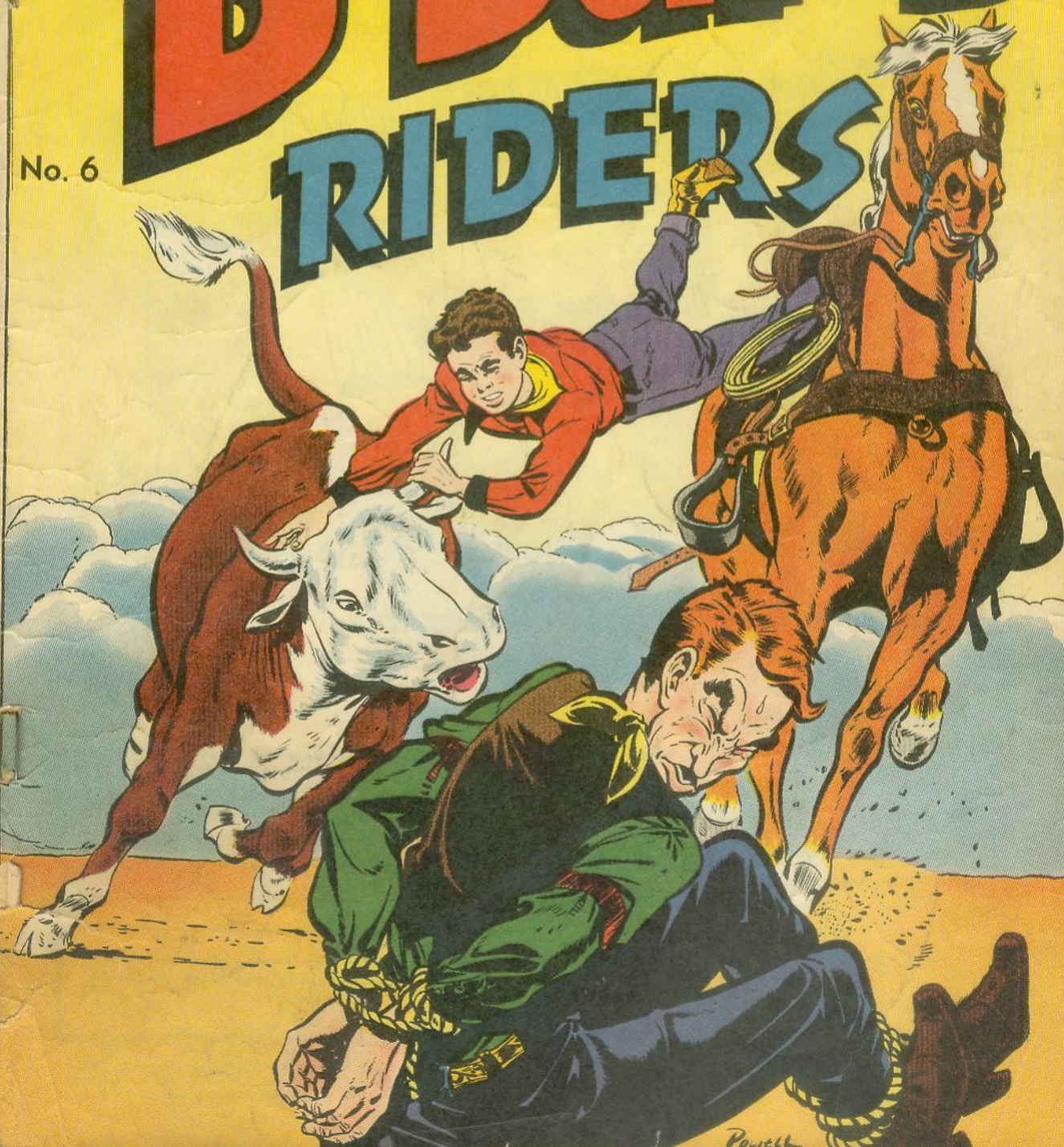
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and

No. 6

B-Bar-B

RIDERS





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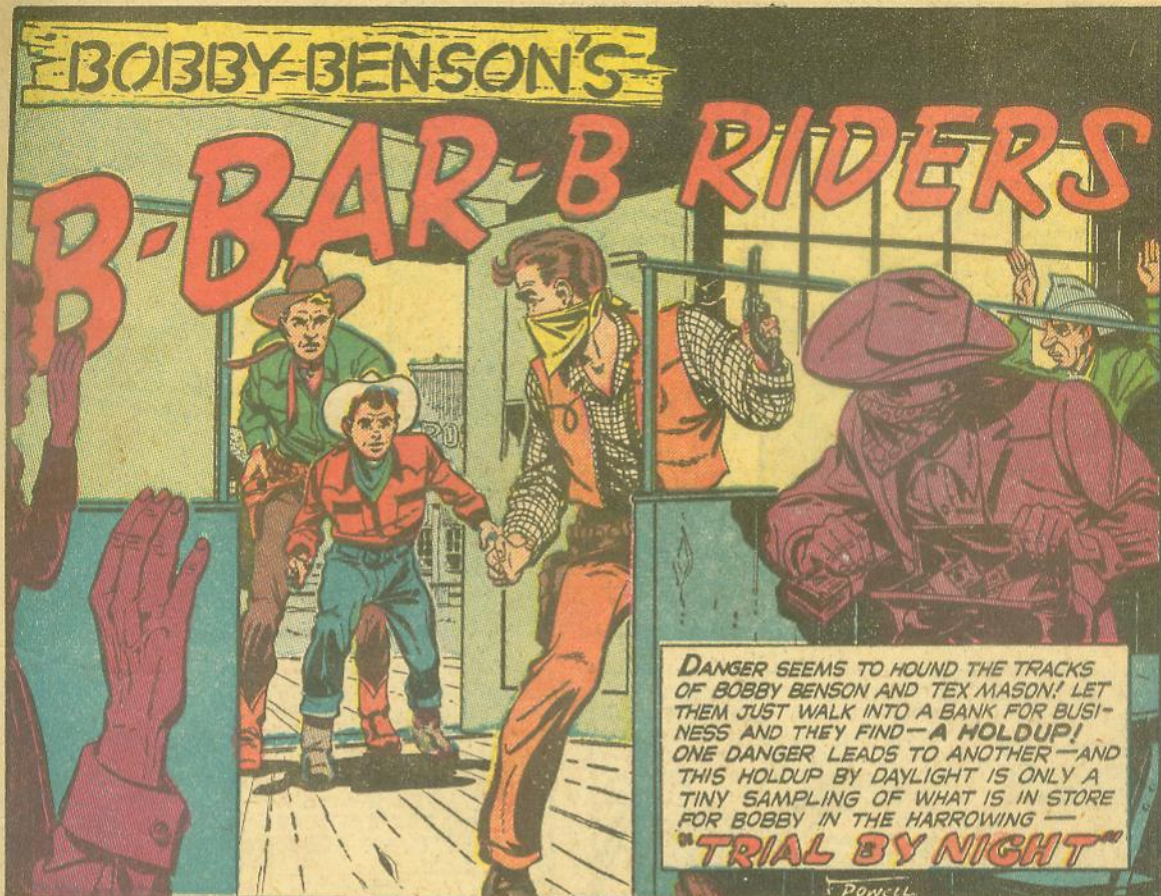
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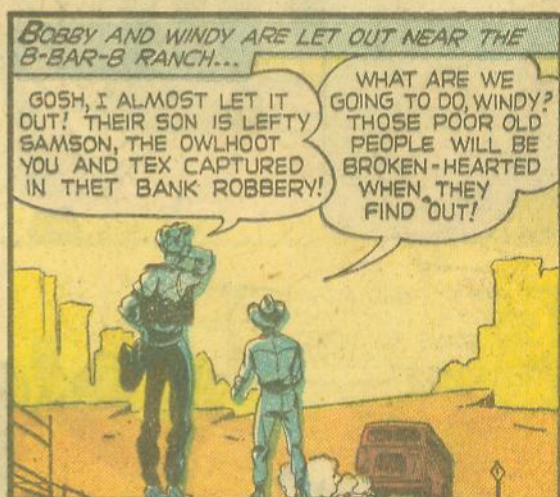
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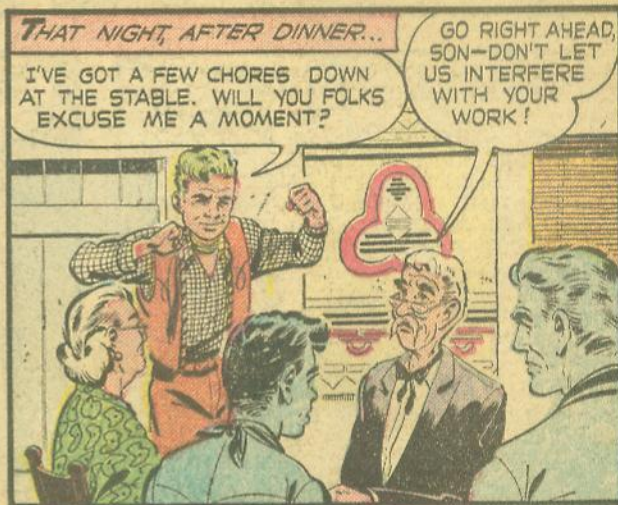
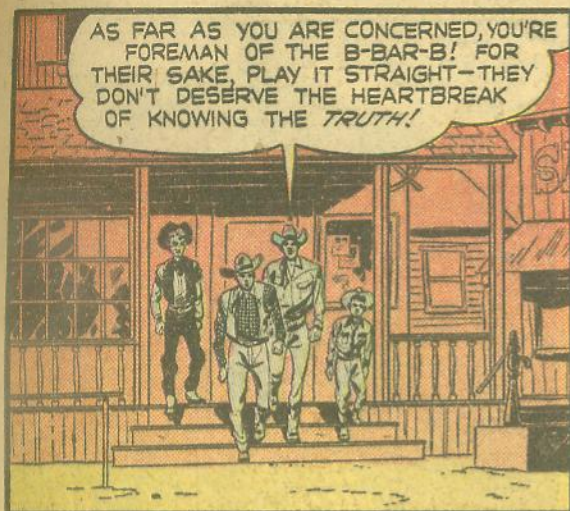
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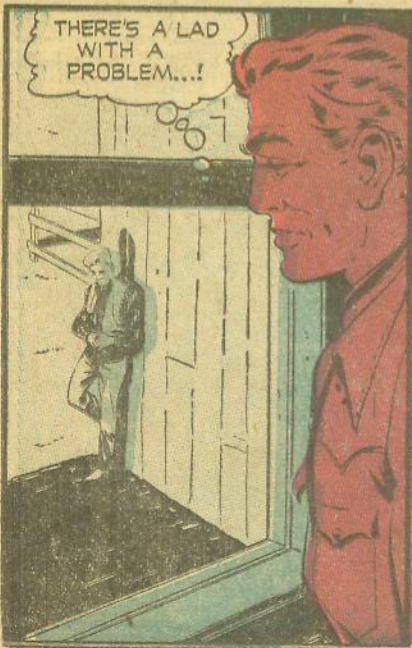
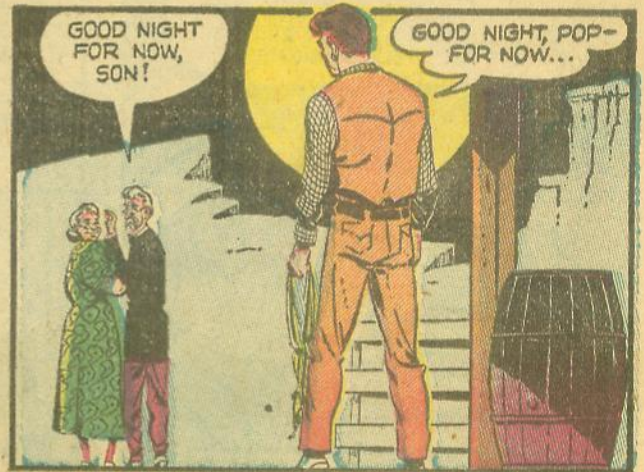
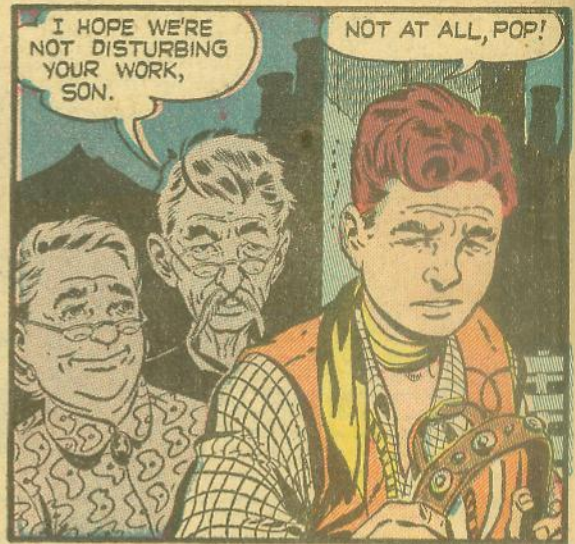
BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



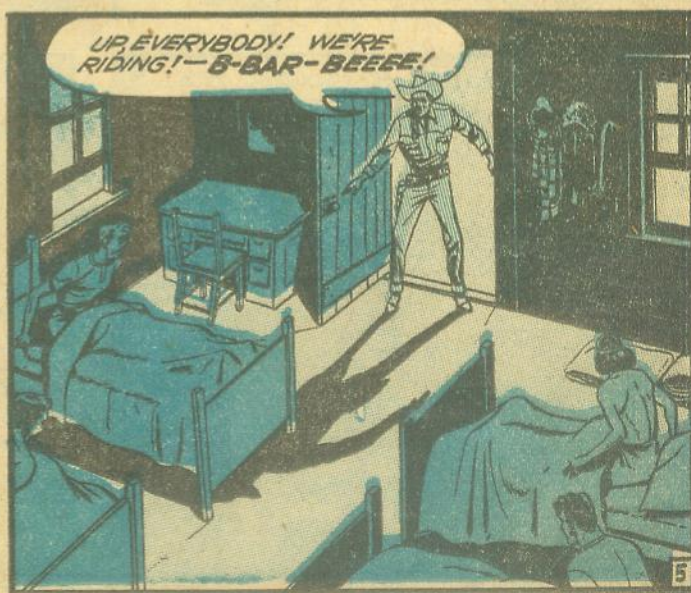
BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



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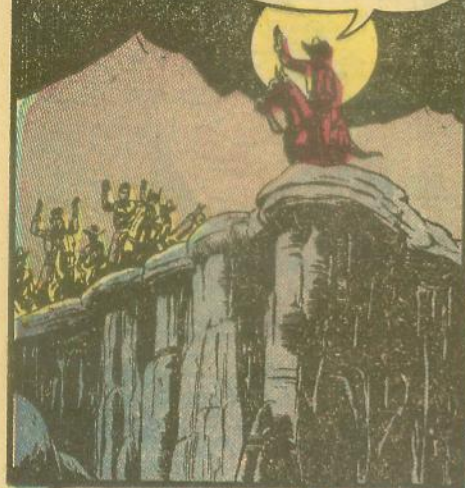
BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS

MEANWHILE...

HOLD IT, MEN—
WE'RE JUST SHORT
O' THE BORDER. KEEP
YORE HANDS UP,
YOU TWO!

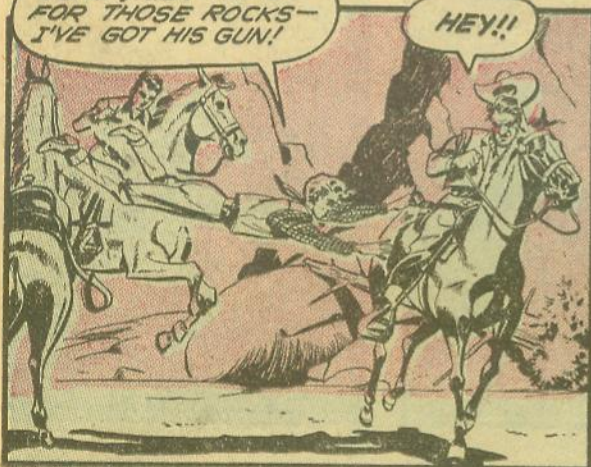
WE'LL TIE UP THUH KID
AN' LEFTY AN' LEAVE
'EM HYAR. THUH WOLVES'LL
MAKE SURE THAR'S NOTHIN'
LEFT O' THEM BY MORNIN'!

NOW'S MY CHANCE—OR
NEVER! EITHER I ACT
FAST—OR IT'S
CERTAIN DEATH!



JUMP, KID! MAKE
FOR THOSE ROCKS—
I'VE GOT HIS GUN!

HEY!!



KEEP RUNNING, FAST!
AH! GOT ONE OF THEM!



TRAPPED!

NO WAY OUT! IT'S
MY FAULT, BOBBY—
I GOT YOU INTO
THIS!



WE'LL JUST HAVE TO
FIGHT IT OUT RIGHT
HERE! ...MISSED!



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



THEY'RE CLOSING IN ON US, LEFTY.

AND ONLY ONE BULLET LEFT IN THIS GUN!



THERE'S A CHANCE OF YOUR GETTING THROUGH THIS, BOBBY— BUT WHEN THEY CATCH ME, I'M FINISHED! IF YOU EVER GET THROUGH TO MY FOLKS, DON'T LET THEM FIND OUT I WAS JUST AN OWLHOOT...



I'M CHEATING MUG FOR THE LAST TIME— I'M GOING TO USE THIS LAST BULLET ON MYSELF!

NO, LEFTY— NO! AS LONG AS THERE'S EVEN ONE BULLET LEFT, YOU'VE GOT TO FIGHT! NEVER SAY DIE!

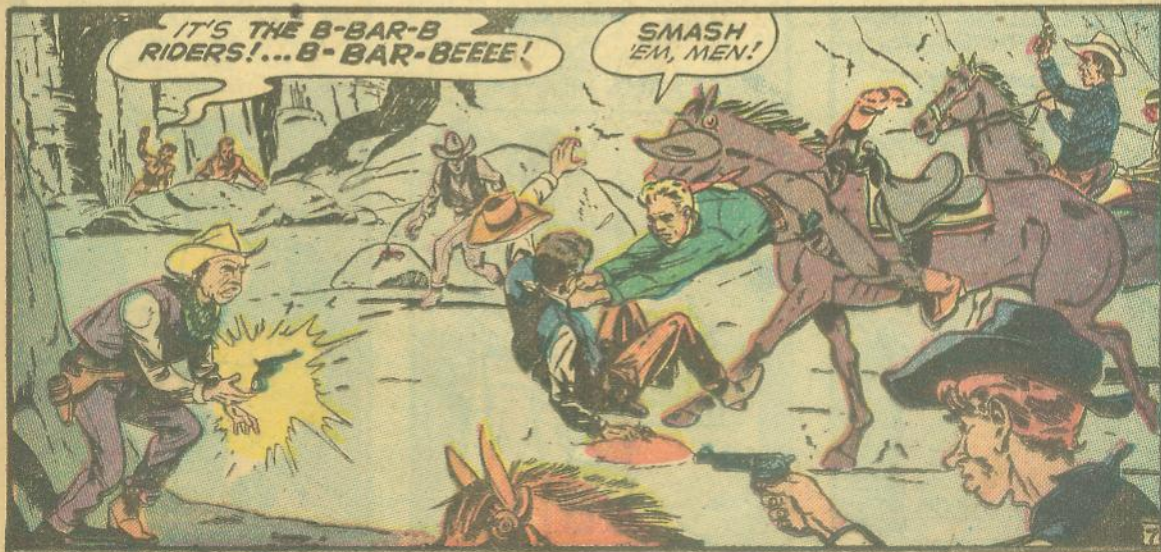


NO USE, KID. CAN'T YOU HEAR HOW CLOSE THEY'RE GETTING?

BUT THERE'S ANOTHER SOUND! DO YOU HEAR? LISTEN! LISTEN!



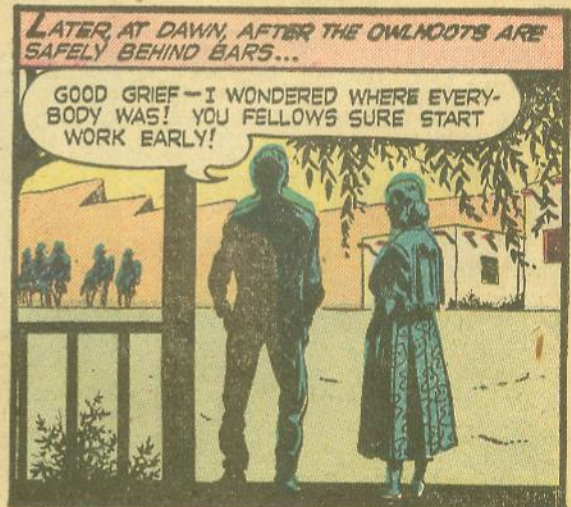
THE SOUND THAT BOBBY MEANS GROWS LOUDER AND LOUDER, FILLING THE VALLEY WITH ITS STEADY DRUMMING, ECHOING IN A ROAR FROM THE ROCKS. IT'S...



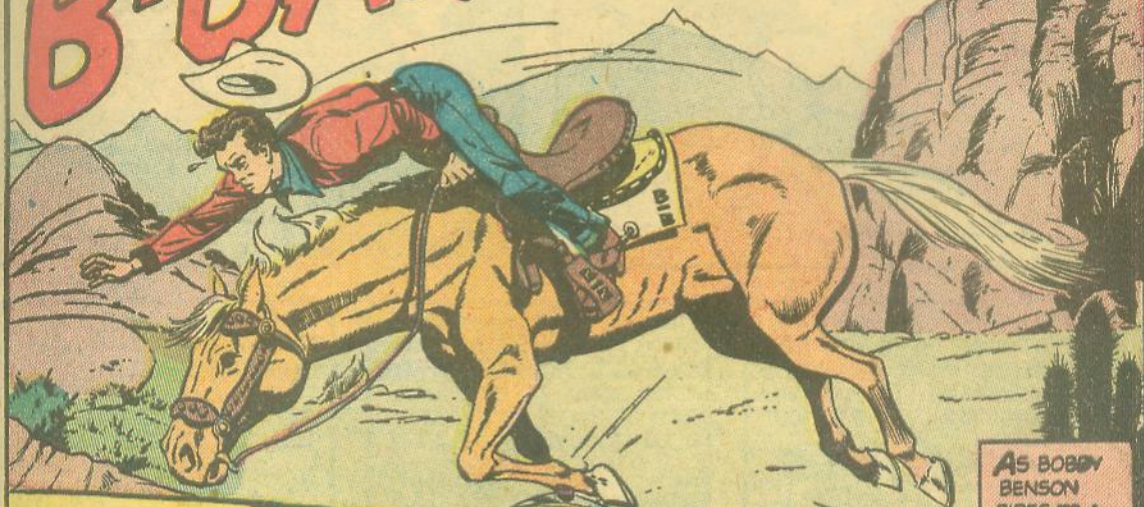
IT'S THE B-BAR-B RIDERS!... B-BAR-BEEEE!

SMASH 'EM, MEN!

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



AS BOBBY BENSON RIDES TO A FAR CORNER OF THE B-BAR-B CATTLE SPREAD, AMIGO SUDDENLY LOSES HIS FOOTING...

STRANGE MARKINGS ON OLD TREES... A KNIFE-BORNE NOTE... GUNFIRE FROM UNSEEN ASSAILANTS... ALL PIECES IN THE JIGSAW PUZZLE OF DANGER THAT BOBBY BENSON HAS TO PUT TOGETHER WHEN HE TRIES TO SOLVE...

"THE MYSTERY OF JUAN GARCIA'S PICK!"

Powell



MAKES ME FEEL LIKE A TENDERFOOT BEING THROWN... **THAT PICK..** THAT'S WHAT MADE AMIGO STUMBLE!



THIS IS AN **ODD-LOOKING PICK.** THE HANDLE'S CARVED AND IT LOOKS VERY OLD. RECKON I'LL TAKE IT BACK... **SHOTS!**

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS

AS BULLETS FROM AN UNSEEN GUNMAN KICK UP DUST AROUND HIM, BOBBY GRABS THE STRANGE PICK AND SWINGS ONTO AMIGO...



BACK AT THE B-BAR-B...

AND AS SOON AS I TOUCHED THIS PICK THE SHOTS RANG OUT!

LITTLE BOSS, I DON'T KNOW WHO'D WANT TUH TAKE SHOTS AT YUH BUT I'VE GOT A CLEVER LITTLE CONTRAPSHUN HERE THAT'LL GET YUH HELP PRONTO IF YUH EVER NEED US. IT'S CALLED THE WAILER!



YUH CAN CARRY IT IN YORE POCKET AND IF YUH NEED HELP JEST PUSH DOWN ON THIS HERE BUTTON AN'...

SHUT IT OFF, WINDY! IT'S EVEN WORSE THAN LISTENING TO YOU!



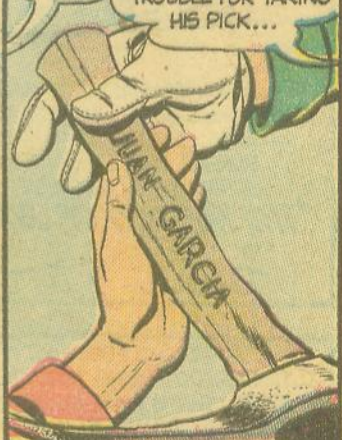
THANKS, WINDY, I'LL HANG ON TO IT, TEX, DID YOU EVER HEAR OF A JUAN GARCIA?

JUAN GARCIA.. THAT'S A SPANISH NAME. FUNNY, IT IS FAMILIAR BUT I JUST CAN'T PLACE IT. WHY'D YOU ASK, BOBBY?



THAT'S THE NAME CARVED ON THIS PICK HANDLE.

FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, SENOR JUAN GARCIA HAS BEEN DEAD A LONG TIME. I RECKON HE WON'T CAUSE YOU ANY TROUBLE FOR TAKING HIS PICK...



BUT, LATER THAT AFTERNOON...

I LOVE TO WATCH WINDY SHAVE.. I KEEP HOPING SOMEDAY HE'LL SLIP WHILE HE'S DOING HIS NECK.

IF I CUT MYSELF YOU'LL SEE BLUE BLOOD...!



W-WHAT WAS THAT?

THE CLOSEST SHAVE YOU EVER HAD! LOOK, THERE'S A NOTE ATTACHED TO THIS KNIFE!



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS

THE OTHERS QUICKLY GATHER AROUND AND TEX READS THE NOTE...

"GO ALONE AND REPLACE THE PICK EXACTLY WHERE YOU FOUND IT..OR THE NEXT KNIFE WILL FIND A SOFTER TARGET!..." COME ON, GANG, WE'RE ALL RIDING OUT TO WHERE BOBBY FOUND THAT PICK!

NO, TEX, THE NOTE SAYS I'M TO GO ALONE!



RIDING BACK WITH THE PICK, BOBBY CAREFULLY REPLACES IT. THEN...

YOU SURE THAT'S ABSOLUTELY WHERE YA FOUND IT, SONNY?..NO MISTAKE?

W-WHO ARE YOU? THIS IS MY RANCH.. YOU'RE TRESPASSING.



DON'T GET LEGAL-MINDED WITH ME, KID, OR YA WON'T STAY HEALTHY! IS THIS WHERE YA FOUND THE PICK? ANSWER PRONTO!

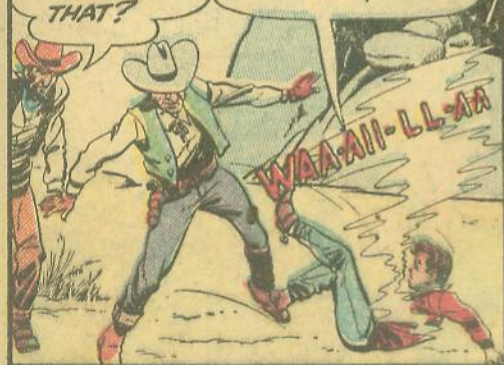
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!



AS BOBBY FALLS, THE WAILER IN HIS BACK POCKET HITS THE GROUND...

WHAT IN TARNATION IS THAT?

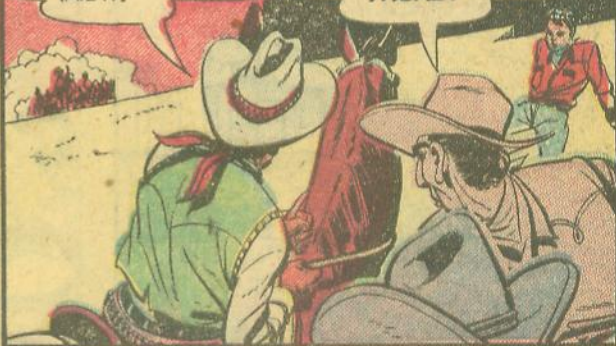
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH, MISTER!



RACING ACROSS THE PLAINS TO ANSWER THEIR BOSS' CALL THE B-BAR-B RIDERS GALLOP TOWARDS THE THREE INTRUDERS..

SOMEONE'S COMIN'! LEAVE THE KID AND HIGH-TAIL IT!

WE'LL BE BACK...AND THAT PICK BETTER BE THERE!



BOBBY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES, TEX. BUT THREE TOUGH HOMBRES STARTED SHOVING ME AROUND. THEY WANTED TO KNOW IF I HAD REPLACED THE PICK EXACTLY WHERE I HAD FOUND IT.



LOOK, HARKA FINDS COMPASS ON GROUND. ONE OF THE MEN DROP.

A COMPASS? WHY'D ANYONE WANT A COMPASS UNLESS HE WAS READING A MAP? I'VE GOT A HUNCH! I'M GOING TO SET THE PICK IN THE GROUND AS I FOUND IT AND SIGHT ALONG THE TOP OF IT AND SEE WHERE IT POINTS!



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



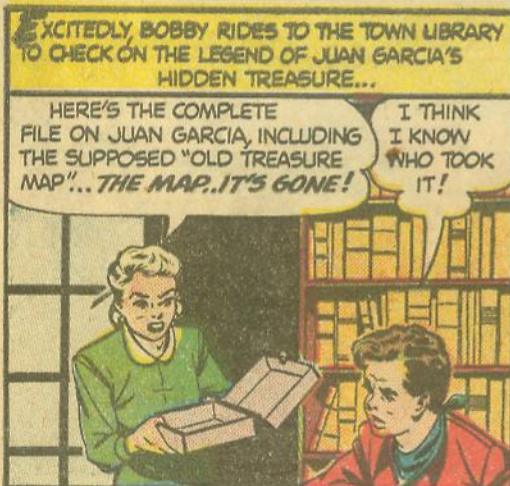
HOLD ON!
SIGHTING ALONG
THE PICK HEAD,
I CAN SEE A
WHITE MARK ON
ONE OF THOSE
TREES YONDER!



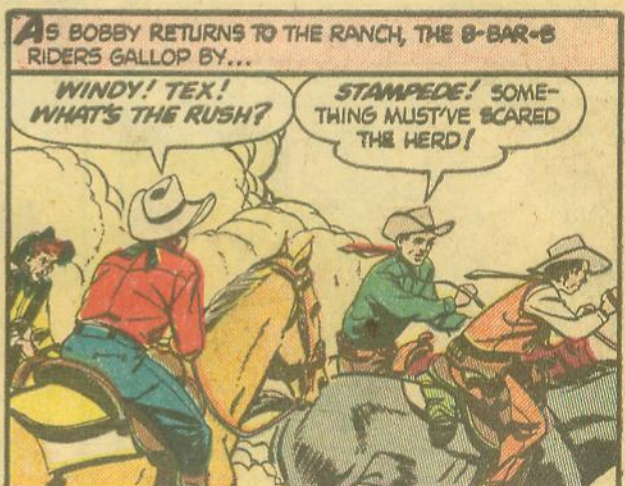
OLD INDIAN
SIGNS, THEY SAY..
TREASURE TRAIL THIS WAY!



NOW I RE-MEMBER WHO JUAN GARCIA WAS! THERE'S A LEGEND THAT WHEN WE FOUGHT MEXICO ALL THE SPANIARDS 'ROUND HERE FLED SOUTH. TO LIGHTEN HIS LOAD JUAN GARCIA HID HIS GOLD ..IT'S NEVER BEEN FOUND!



I THINK I KNOW WHO TOOK IT!



STAMPEDE! SOMETHING MUST'VE SCARED THE HERD!

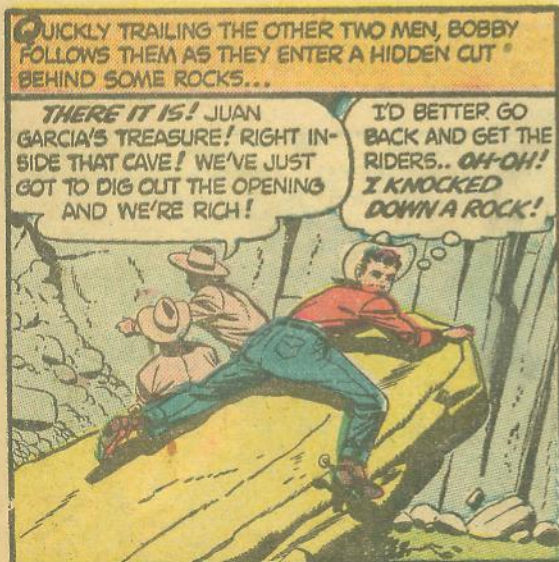
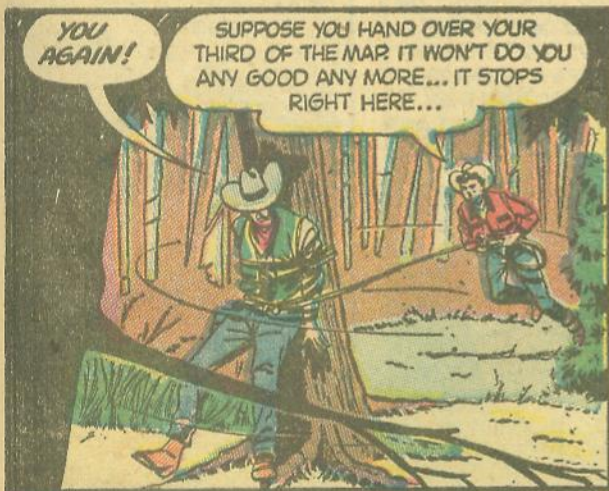


OKAY, LITTLE BOSS! WE'LL ROUND UP YORE DOGGIES AN EF'N YUH NEED HELP JUST RE-MEMBER THE MAILER!

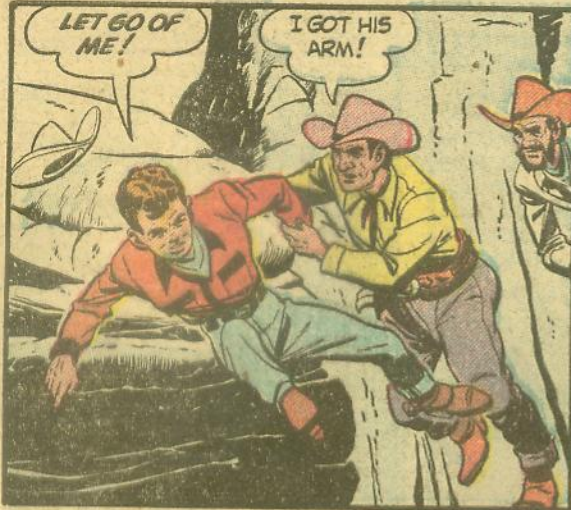


WHOA, AMIGO! WE'RE STOPPING HERE! I'LL SNEAK UP AND TRY TO HEAR WHAT THOSE HOMBRES ARE SAYING!

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



FORCED AT GUN POINT TO DIG, BOBBY CLEARS AWAY THE BLOCKED ENTRANCE TO THE TREASURE CAVE...

OKAY, KID, YOU'VE BEEN DOIN' HARD WORK AND NOW YOU'RE GOIN' TO GET A **GOOD LONG REST**.. AS SOON AS WE GET OUR HANDS ON THE LOOT!



TAKING A DESPERATE CHANCE, BOBBY RACES INTO THE DARK CAVE...

GET 'IM!
SHOOT 'IM
DOWN!

THE SECTION OF THE MAP I HAVE SAYS, "ON THE LEDGE TO THE LEFT.." IF I'M RIGHT, THERE'S A LEDGE TO THE LEFT THAT THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT AND I CAN HIDE THERE!



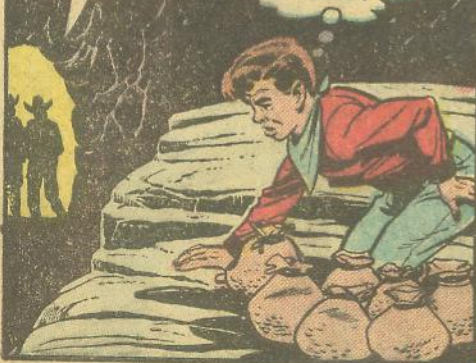
SHOTS ECHO INSIDE THE CAVE AS BOBBY DASHES TO THE LEFT...

I WAS RIGHT! THERE IS A LEDGE HERE! I'M SAFE..FOR THE MOMENT!



GET OUT YOUR FLASHLIGHT AND FIND THAT KID! MY TRIGGER FINGER'S ITCHING!

THE MONEY BAGS! A DOZEN OF THEM! I'M SITTING RIGHT ON TOP OF THE TREASURE! BUT I'D BETTER GET HELP QUICK! WHERE'S WINDY'S WAILER?



BOBBY PRESSES THE WAILER AND IT'S EERIE SHRIEK ECHOES THROUGH THE TREASURE CAVE AS THE TWO GOLD HUNTERS, GUNS IN HAND, SWEEP THEIR FLASHLIGHT AROUND, SEARCHING FOR BOBBY...

THAT BLASTED THING'S SCREAMING AGAIN! GET THE KID BEFORE THE NOISE DRIVES ME BATTY.

I THINK I SAW SOMETHIN' MOVE OVER ON THE LEFT!



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS

HE'S SWINGING THE LIGHT TOWARD ME. IN ANOTHER SECOND HE'LL SPOT ME UNLESS I CAN KNOCK HIM DOWN WITH THIS SACK OF GOLD...



THE GOLD! BUT FIRST I WANT THAT KID!

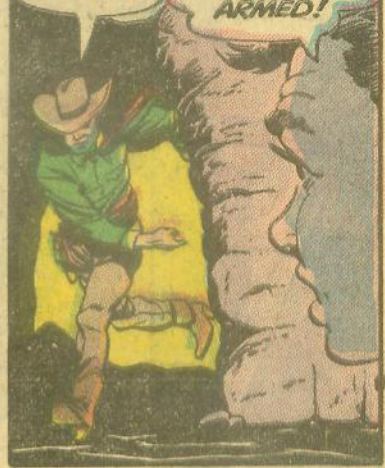


OOW!

AS THE SCREAM OF THE WAILER DIES DOWN, THE B-BAR-B RIDERS RUSH INTO THE CAVE...

IN HERE FELLOWS!

WATCH OUT, TEX! THEY'RE ARMED!



AS THE BOYS SWING INTO ACTION, BOBBY LEAPS DOWN FROM THE LEDGE...

THAT TAKES CARE OF THIS HOMBRE!

TEX! BEHIND YOU!

I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM FROM FIRING!



HERE'S YOUR GOLD, MISTER!

A-A-A-AGGH!



FAITH, YOU'VE DONE 'EM BOTH IN WITHOUT GIVING ME A CHANCE TO TRY MY SUNDAY PUNCH!



PICKING UP THE OTHER CROOK ON THE WAY BACK, BOBBY HAS THE THREE TREASURE HUNTERS BROUGHT INTO THE RANCH HOUSE WHILE THEY WAIT FOR THE SHERIFF...

THAT GOLD IS OURS! WE HEARD THE LEGEND DOWN MEXICO WAY AND WE LOCATED THAT CAVE!

WITH A **STOLEN** MAP AND **TRESPASSING** ON MY LAND! IF YOU'D ASKED MY PERMISSION TO SEARCH FOR THE TREASURE AND HAD GOTTEN THE MAP **HONESTLY**, THE MONEY'D BE YOURS. THE LIBRARY WILL GET IT NOW. BUT I'M KEEPING JUAN GARCIA'S PICK AS A MOMENTO...



The LEMONADE KID

YA AINT GOT A CHANCE
AGAINST 'THE BRAIN' MAC.
OKAY YOU GUYS--GET TH' DOUGH
--GO ON--GET INSIDE---

**WHAT
TH...
UH !!**

ANOTHER BANK ROBBERY! RUTHLESS GUNPLAY! A HATED AND FEARED OUT-LAW--"THE BRAIN"--RIDES THE LAND... WITH EVERY OPERATION BRILLIANTLY SCHEMED, PRECISELY TIMED...AND THE FOLLOWERS OF "THE BRAIN" ARE PROUD OF THEIR UNCANNY ABILITY TO OUTWIT THE FORCES OF LAW! BUT THERE'S SUCH A THING AS BEING TOO SMART...AND THE **LEMONADE KID** DRIVES THIS LESSON HOME TO A SMASH FINISH IN--"**BRAIN STORM**"

Powell

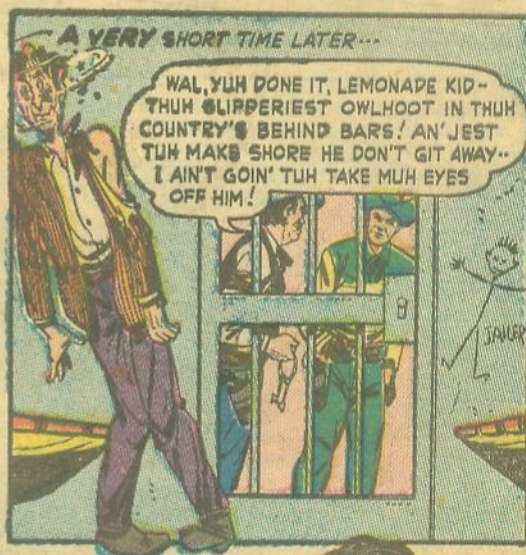
THEY BRUSH FIRE WE
LIT HAS GOT THUH SHERIFF
AN' EVERY MAN OUTA
TOWN--WHILE WE
ROB THIS BANK!

THET'S WHUT I
CALL PLANNIN'.
BRAIN! EVERY-
THING'S GOIN' EASY
AS PIE -- JEST THE
WAY YUH FIGGERED!

--EXCEPT FOR ONE THING, MATSON! YOU FIGURED WITHOUT THE **LEMONADE KID!**

YEEOW!

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



SHERIFF, I'M JIM MATSON'S GIRL FRIEND! MAY I SEE HIM PLEASE?

HMMMPH! GRUMMPH! SORRY, MISS-- AIN'T REGULATIONS!

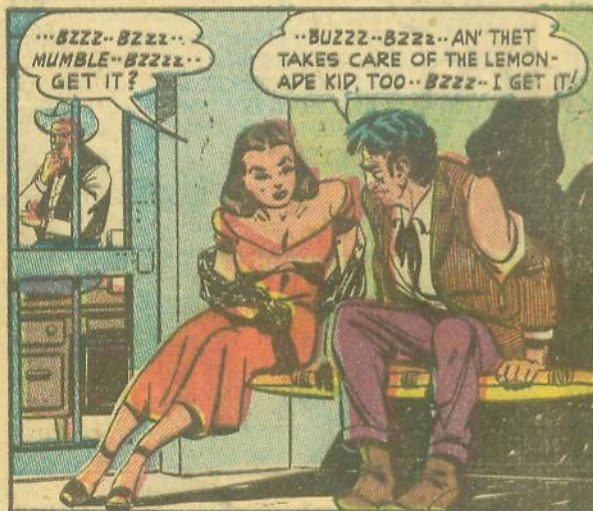


PLEASE, SHERIFF-- PLEASE? JUST ONCE, BEFORE-- BEFORE HE (SOS) DIES?

GULP!



WAL, I-- GULP!-- I GUESS THAR WON'T BE NO HARM IN THET-- JEST THIS ONCE-- BUT NO FUNNY BUSINESS NOW!



...BUZZZ--BUZZZ-- MUMBLE--BUZZZ-- GET IT?

..BUZZZ--BUZZZ-- AN' THET TAKES CARE OF THE LEMON-APE KID, TOO--BUZZZ-- I GET IT!



THANK YOU, SHERIFF-- YOU'RE SO KIND! (SOS)

ALL I GOT TUH SAY, MISS-- IS THET A SKUNK LIKE THET SHORE DON'T RATE A FINE-LOOKIN' GAL LIKE YOU!



JEST THUH SAME-- I THINK I'LL FRISK YUH, MATSON! JEST TUH MAKE SHORE SHE DIDN'T SLIP YUH NO GUNS, KNIVES OR FILES! I AIN'T TAKIN' NO CHANCES!



DIDN'T FIND NO WEAPONS ON HIM! THIS TIME MATSON AIN'T GOIN' TUH GET AWAY! I'M JEST TOO SMART FER 'IM! OHH! THESE FEET!!

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



BUT-- AT PINE HILL--

EMPTY! AIN'T
NOBODY
HYAR!

AND WHAT'S
MORE, NOBODY'S
BEEN NEAR THIS
SPOT ALL DAY!
NOT A TRACK
AROUND!



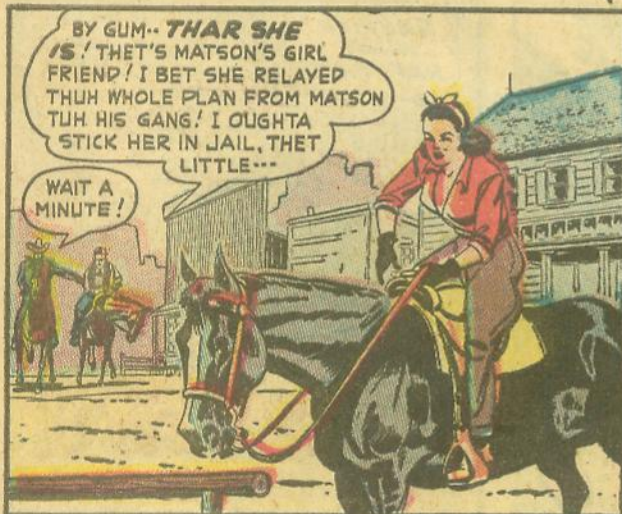
SHERIFF, I'M WILLING
TO BET THAT WAS
NO LYNCH MOB AT
ALL! THAT WAS A
BUNCH OF MATSON'S
OWN MEN!

I'LL BE
A HORN-
SWOGGLED, FLOR-
EARED COYOTE!



IT WAS A JAIL-
BREAK! THET
SLIPPERY SKUNK
DONE WENT
AND DONE IT
AGAIN! HE
OUTWITTED
US, KID!

AND THIS
FALSE ALARM
RIDE TO PINE
HILL HAS GIVEN
THEM TIME TO
MAKE A CLEAN
GETAWAY!



BY GUM-- **THAR SHE**
IS! THET'S MATSON'S GIRL
FRIEND! I BET SHE RELAYED
THUH WHOLE PLAN FROM MATSON
TUH HIS GANG! I OUGHTA
STICK HER IN JAIL, THET
LITTLE---

WAIT A
MINUTE!



MY HUNCH IS THAT SHE'S
ON HER WAY TO MEET MATSON!
I'M GOING TO FOLLOW HER,
SHERIFF! YOU'D BETTER STAY
HERE AND NURSE THAT
BANGED-UP HEAD
OF YOURS!



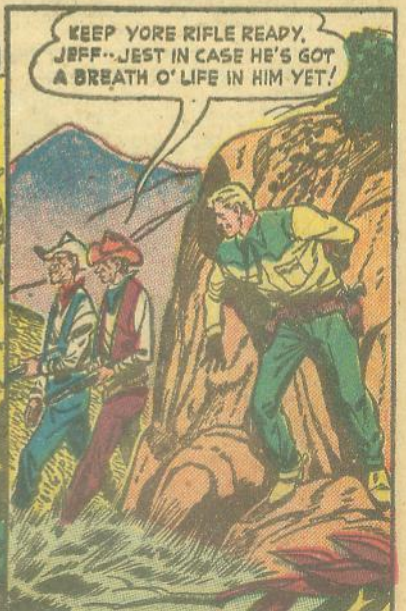
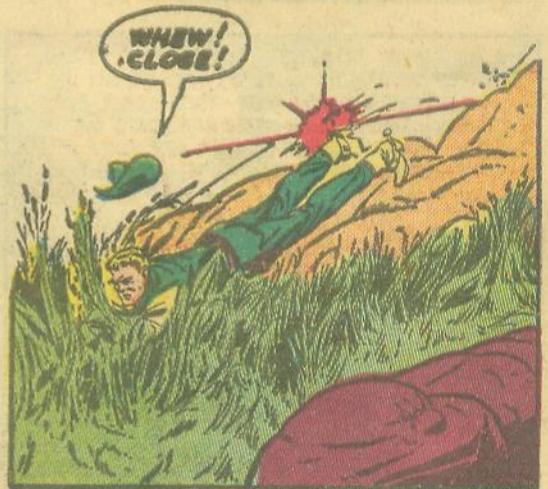
GET WORD TO HARKA AT
THE B-BAR-B, SHERIFF--HAVE
HIM FOLLOW MY TRAIL AS
FAST AS HE CAN!

RIGHT!
DON'T LET
THET DAME
PUT NUTHIN'
OVER ON YUH!

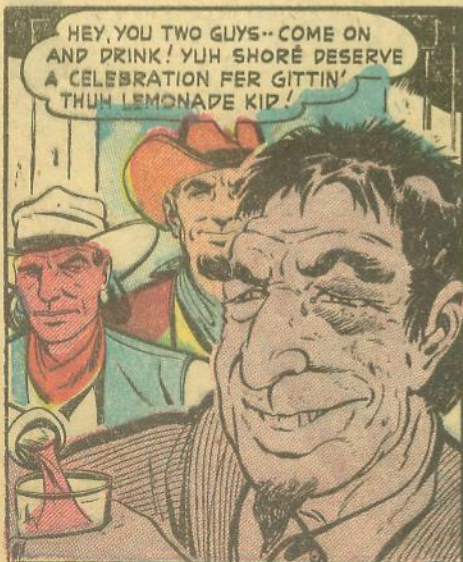
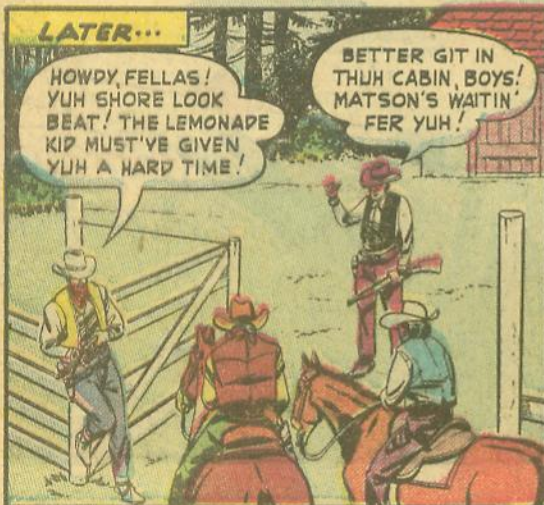


SHE WON'T PUT ANYTHING
OVER ON ME--UNLESS--HMM--
I WONDER IF SHE **KNOWS**
SHE'S BEING
TRAILED---!!

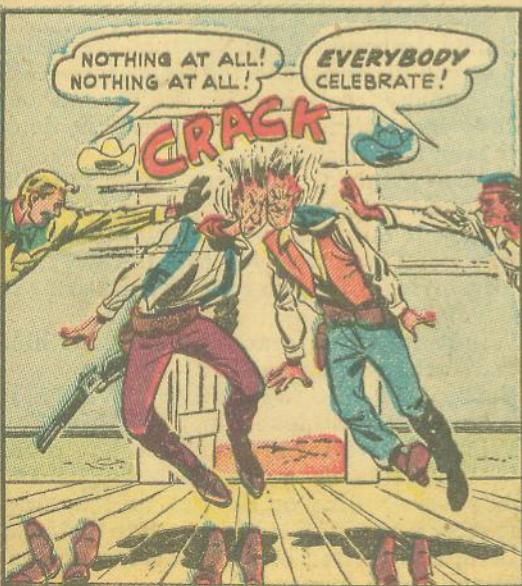
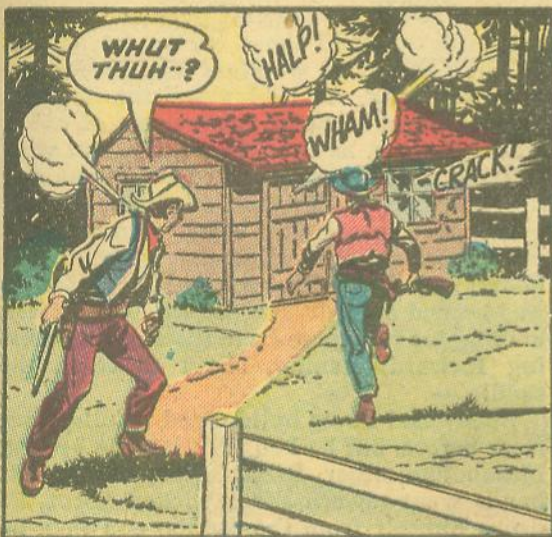
BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



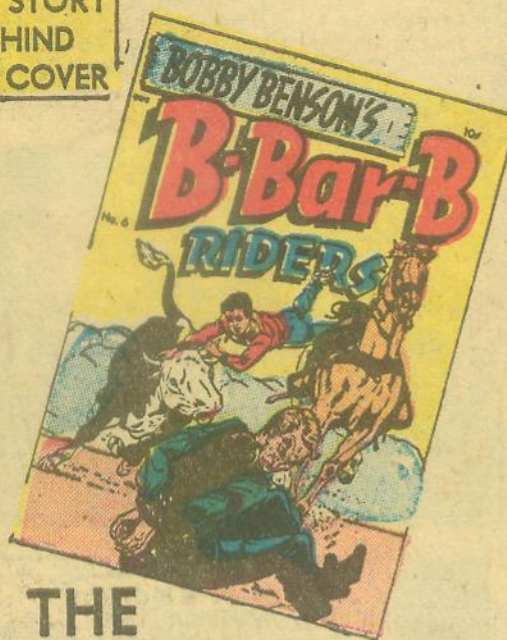
BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



THE STORY
BEHIND
THE COVER



IN THE PATH OF THE STAMPEDE!

WINDY WALES was mad. And scared. If it had not been for Irish laughing at him, back in front of the B-Bar-B bunkhouse, he would not be out here, wrists and ankles tied; and trying, like the famous Harry Houdini, to free himself.

Unlike the great escape artist, Houdini, the more Windy struggled, the less he accomplished. Those ropes (which the advertisement had said would slip loose if you applied pressure at the correct places) refused to budge. They seemed to cling even tighter, as if mocking him, as Irish had done. In high dudgeon, Windy had galloped off, to practise his escape trick at the base of the foothills, near the west basin herd.

Windy stared up at the sky. It was dark, threatening. In the distance, he could see the jagged yellow fork of a lightning bolt rip through the storm clouds. "If I don't work myself loose plumb soon," Windy said, "I'll be here when the rain comes!" The thought of what Irish would have to say to that made him squirm uncomfortably.

"No tellin' how long I'm liable to be out here," he went on, "Maybe even all night. Maybe I'll starve . . . or die of thirst . . . or some bear or mountain lion will get me!"

Those thoughts drove Windy, in a wild fury of action, to tackle the ropes again. And again he failed. His muscles were cramped, and aching. He was bent forward at an uncomfortable angle.

"One more try," he said aloud, "an' then I —"

His blood ran cold. He lifted his head and stared out into the distance, where a dust cloud rolled faster and faster. The ground was shaking under him.

"Stampede!" yelled Windy. "An' they're coming this way!"

Nobody could hear him yell, now. He was trapped — tied up by his own hands, helpless in the face of the west basin herd stampeded by the lightning and the thunder.

Out of the corner of his eye, Windy saw a patch of movement. A steer! Head down, legs churning, it was rocketing right at the helpless Windy! Probably a loner, off by itself, hearing the stampede, worried by the lightning and the thunder, it was staging a stampede all by itself . . . right at him, Windy Wales!

Windy yelled, but nobody could hear him, he knew. He shut his eyes and tried to roll aside to avoid those wicked horns. But he knew that trick wouldn't stop an enraged steer for long. As he lay waiting for that ripping horn, he heard another set of hoofs. Another steer, he thought wildly. But what difference did it make? Two steers couldn't kill him any deadlier than one steer!

Windy opened his eyes, and choked. Bobby Benson was riding that second set of hoofs: his palomino, Amigo! And Bobby was headed straight for the wild-eyed steer, kicking his feet loose from the stirrups, driving forward, leaning, about to leave the saddle —

Bobby had never bulldogged a full-grown steer before, but he had seen it done by Tex Mason and other B-Bar-B cowhands. His hands went toward those wicked horns, he drove himself from the saddle, and then he was swinging on the steer, driving him to one side, away from Windy.

Bobby dropped off and shouted. He yelled and waved his arms, and the steer trotted off. Then Bobby took out his knife and cut Windy free. Windy said, "Little boss, don't you ever tell Irish about —"

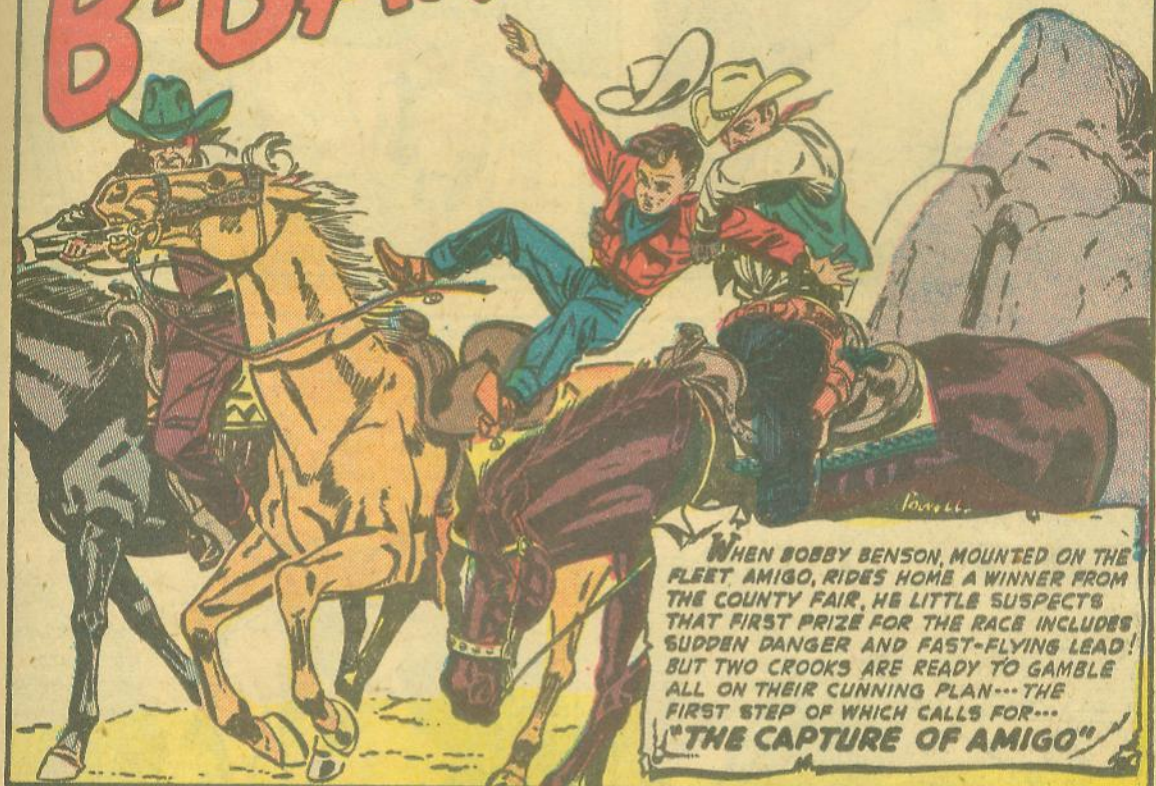
Bobby grinned. "It was Irish's fault, Windy. He opened your escape rope package and took it out. He put in a piece of ordinary rope. That's why you couldn't get free! I got worried after you rode off, and came to find you."

Windy let out a roar. "I'll skin his hide off an' tack it to the wall! I'll —!"

Bobby said, "You aren't hurt, Windy. It was kind of a good joke, don't you think?"

Windy paused for breath. Then he started to grin. Inside of a few seconds, he and Bobby were rolling on the ground laughing. The steer watched them from a safe distance, sniffed, and trotted off. He never could understand these humans!

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



WHEN BOBBY BENSON, MOUNTED ON THE FLEET, AMIGO, RIDES HOME A WINNER FROM THE COUNTY FAIR, HE LITTLE SUSPECTS THAT FIRST PRIZE FOR THE RACE INCLUDES SUDDEN DANGER AND FAST-FLYING LEAD! BUT TWO CROOKS ARE READY TO GAMBLE ALL ON THEIR CUNNING PLAN... THE FIRST STEP OF WHICH CALLS FOR...
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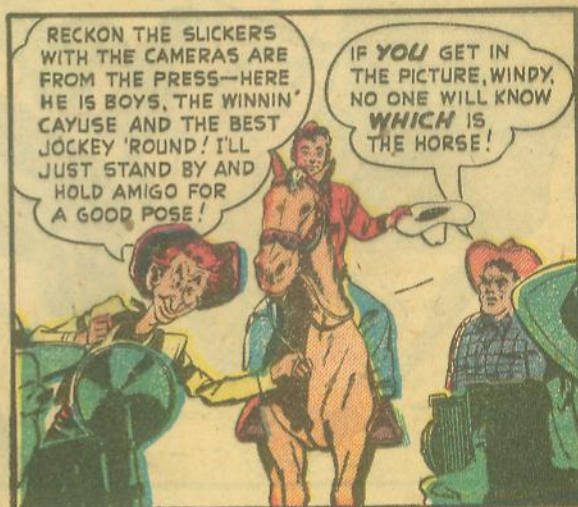
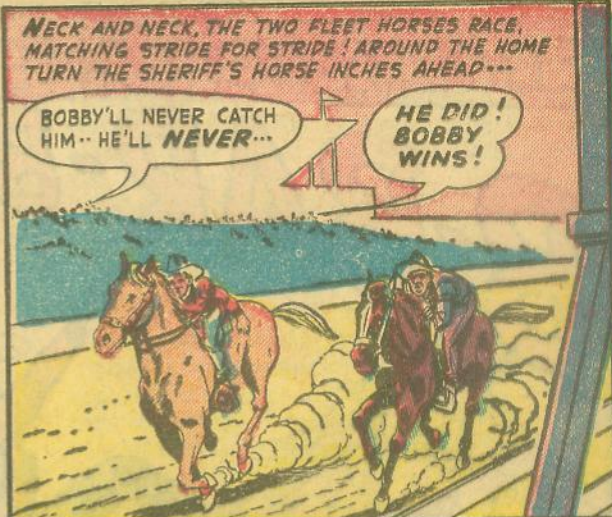
ALMOST AS MUCH DAYLIGHT AS I CAN SEE BETWEEN YOUR EARS! RECKON BOBBY'S IN THE FINALS NOW!



NICE RIDING BOBBY!

ALL I HAD TO DO WAS HANG ON, TEX—AMIGO DID THE REST! BUT I'M RACING AGAINST SHERIFF DODDS IN THE FINALS—AND HIS HORSE IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE FASTEST AROUND HERE!

BOBBY BENSON'S B-BAR-B RIDERS



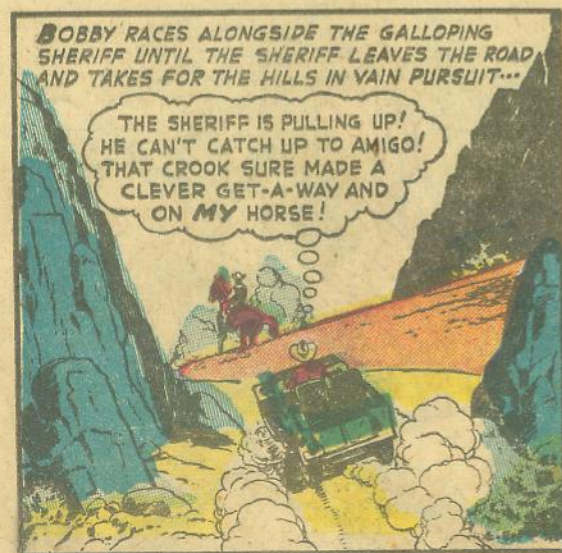
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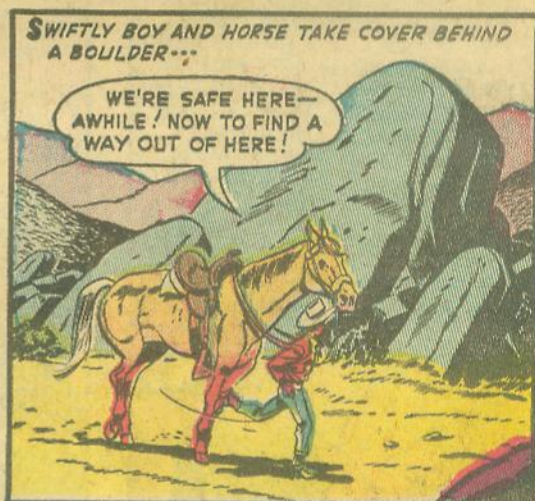
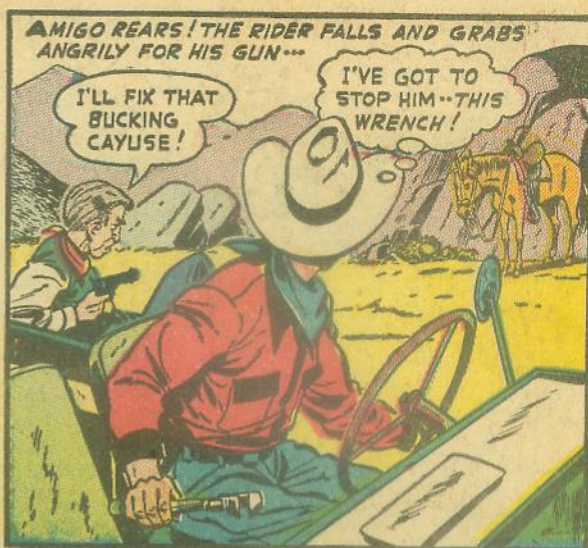
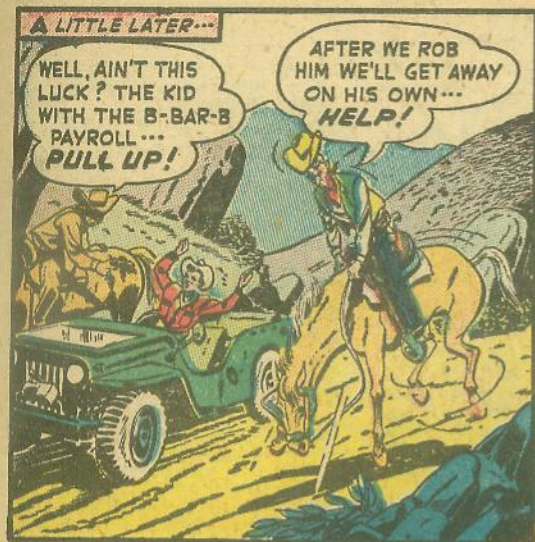
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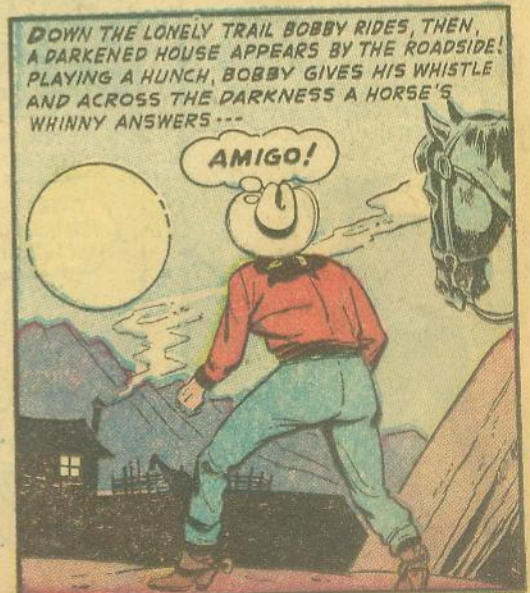
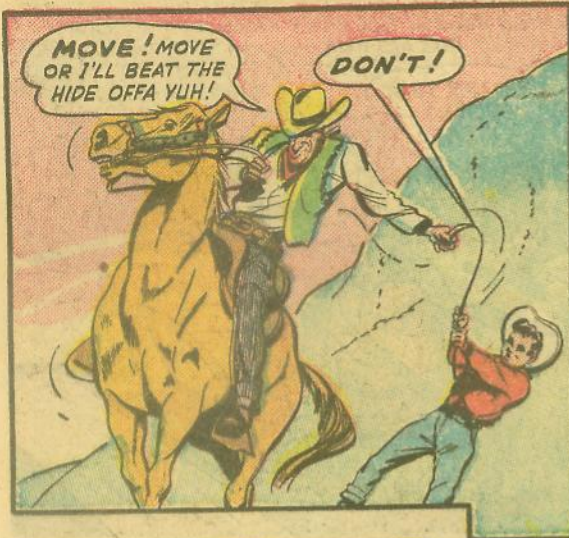
BUT THE TRAIL OF THE RUSTLERS HAS VANISHED ON A ROCKY SLOPE AND THE RIDERS RETURN TO THE RANCH! THE NEXT DAY BOBBY DRIVES INTO TOWN FOR THE PAY-ROLL AND SOME SUPPLIES---



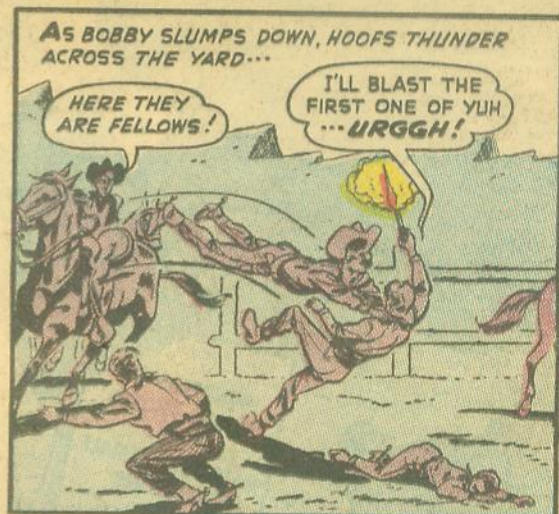
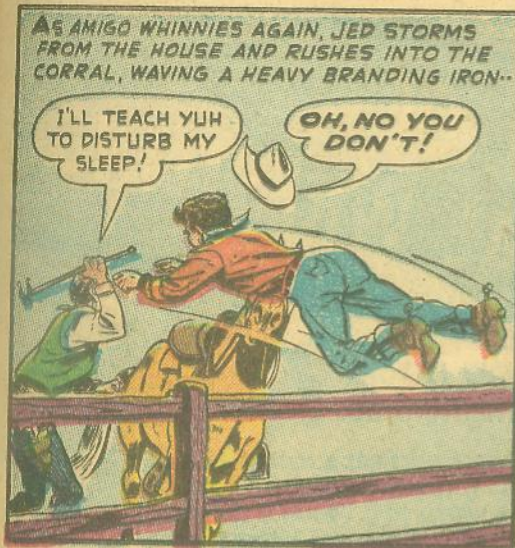
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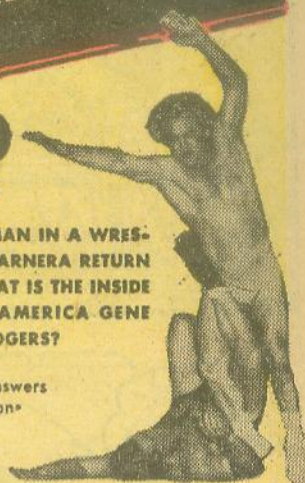
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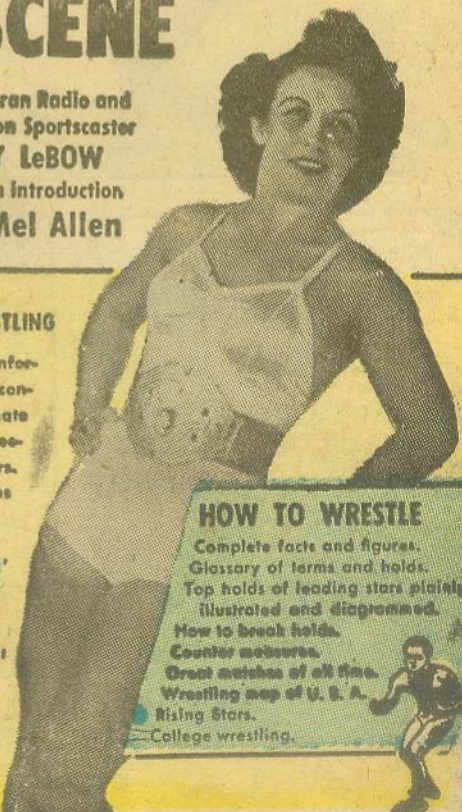
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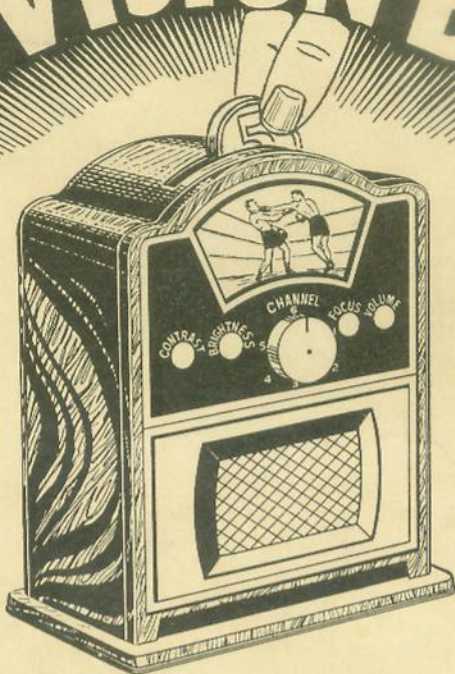
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